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CORY, G. E. *The Rise of South Africa*. (Vol. II.) Pp. xvi, 489. Price, \$5.50. New York: Longmans, Green and Company, 1913.

The second volume of Mr. Cory's *Rise of South Africa* fully maintains the high standard set in the first. The actors in the country's history continue to tell their own story. The material is well documented and the author is successful in keeping himself in the background. Unlike the first volume dealing with the history of times previous to 1820, there is for this one a large amount of reliable published material. This is so profusely used that the author at times fails to realize that the reader has not intimate knowledge of the country's characteristics and general development. It is to be regretted that greater effort is not made to summarize the developments which the detailed description illustrates. The illustrations, which are excellent, are from contemporary cartoons, village plats, early books on South Africa and from photographs of the places where the events described occurred.

The account here given traces the life of the colony through the troublous period from 1820 to 1834. It is largely a record of heroic pioneer work, struggles with hostile natives and an inhospitable soil. There is the usual dreary tale of jealousy, inefficiency, mismanagement, corruption and petty local bickering, that abounds in pioneer ventures but the story as a whole is one which shows the indomitable determination which has made British colonization the world over a success.

Up to 1820 South Africa, in spite of the British occupation in 1806, was British only in name but in that year alone under the influence of the movement to relieve the distress at home by sending the poor to the colonies, 4000 emigrants were sent to the cape. More unfavorable circumstances could hardly be imagined than those under which the ventures started. The government of the colony was not appraised of the intended immigration, the ships were ill-provisioned, no adequate facilities for handling the people were provided against their arrival and bickerings among the authorities and the settlers were prominent from the start. Crops were blighted, the Kaffirs drove off what cattle the colonists raised. The trials attendant on the first years were only earnest of those which continued throughout the period and the difficulties inherent in the situation were much exaggerated by the political mistakes made by both the home government and its local representatives. The governors made the most of the fact that they were distant from the authorities to which they owed obedience and the authorities at London misunderstood South African conditions.

But political conditions, however unfortunate, from many viewpoints, resulting in the outbreak of war in 1834, did not prevent material advance. By the end of the period wagon roads had been extended, native trade developed, ivory, hides and gum had become important articles of export and wool production had been firmly established. Had there been better understanding of conditions and less insistence on British standards the author believes that even at that time the Cape of Good Hope might have become one of the most important of British colonies.

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